

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 BRIEFING MEMORANDUM

S/S

July 18, 1977

TO: P - Mr. Habib
 FROM: D/HA - Patt Derian

Indochinese Refugee Parole Action

The Attorney General's office has requested additional statistics on Indochinese refugees to be included in the proposed parole action. These are attached and are also being provided directly to the Department of Justice.

Boat case refugees now total over 7,000 with 500 arriving each month. A parole action for 7,000 allows the United States to take a substantial proportion of these refugees. Since other countries are also accepting boat case refugees, our parole action would provide sufficient numbers to meet the needs for some months to come.

In the future, we would expect the present conditional entry program for Indochinese boat cases to continue. Additionally, as you know, the President has directed that the Department of State chair an Inter-Agency Task Force to develop a longer term program for dealing with this problem.

With respect to the 8,000 refugees to be paroled from the camps, we are presently developing further information on the ethnic background of these refugees. Most are refugees from Laos. Of these most of the Category I refugees (approximately 2,000) are relatives of Meo refugees in the United States.

Attachments:

As stated.

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Concurrences:

SCA - Mr. DeWitt

EA - Mr. Oakley

Drafted by: D/HA:ORM:SC Lowman:caf:ext.:20770
7/18/77

Estimated Number of Indochinese Refugees

in Southeast and East Asia

(as of July 1, 1977)

Boat case *

Non boat case **

80,000

Thailand 2097

Malaysia 3118

Singapore 160

Indonesia 339

Philippines 527

Hong Kong 250

Taiwan 58

Korea 38

Japan 517

Brunei 10

Total 7114

Among 80,000 non-boat case refugees in Thai camps are approximately 8,000 who fall in following Categories: ***

I - Those with close relatives in U.S. (close relative defined as spouse, parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, or sibling), plus their immediate families: 2000

II - Those who were employed by the U.S. Government missions in Indochina, plus their immediate families: 1800.

III - Those closely associated with U.S. Government in their homelands by reason of role in civil administration or armed forces, and those who received training in U.S. or under U.S. auspices, plus their immediate families: 4,200

80,000

* Virtually all Vietnamese, only a handful are Cambodian. New boat case refugees escaping at rate of over 500/month.

** From Laos 68,000; from Cambodian 11,000; from Vietnam 1000. New non-boat case refugees, mostly from Laos, escaping at rate of 1200-1500/month.

*** Embassy Bangkok preparing up-date figures, which will be available by July 22. Of this total of 8,000 approximately 7,600 are from Laos; of those 7,600, approximately 3000 are Meo.

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